

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 116887 TOSEC 040389
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TO USDEL SECRETARY FLASH

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 116887 TOSEC 040389

FOL RPT MAPUTO 0655 ACTION SECSTATE LONDON 20 MAY 77 QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0655

PASS SECRETARY AND ACTING SECRETARY FROM ANDREW YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SF, WA, US, CA, UK

SUBJECT: MAPUTO CONFERENCE

1. THE OVERRIDING QUESTION IN THE CLOSING HOURS OF
THIS CONFERENCE IS WHETHER THE BRITISH WILL COMPEL
ALL FOUR ALLIES TO BACK AWAY FROM A QUALIFIED ENDORSEMENT
WHICH ENABLES US TO BREAK NEW GROUND WITH THE AFRICANS WHILE
PROTECTING OURSELVES FROM CLEAR COMMITMENTS. EVERYONE HERE UN-
DERSTANDS WHAT IS GOING ON, ESPECIALLY THE AFRICAN LEADERSHIP.

2. WHAT WE MUST CONSIDER IS NOT WHETHER WE BREAK WITH THE BRITISH
BUT WHETHER WE CAN SAVE THE BRITISH FROM THEMSELVES. IF THE
FIVE ARE COMPELLED NOW TO BACK AWAY FROM WHAT THE AFRICANS HAD
REASON TO EXPECT WOULD BE A QUALIFIED ENDORSEMENT RESPONDING
TO THEIR MODERATION, THE BRITISH NAME IS GOING TO BE MUD,
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THE OWEN INITIATIVE WILL BE UNDERMINED AND WE WILL APPEAR TO
BE IN THEIR TOW. WE MUST HANG TOUGH, BRING THE BRITISH ROUND,
COMFORT AND SUPPORT THEM -- BUT NOT LET THEM UNDO THE GOOD
WHICH HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED HERE.

3. IF A COMMITMENT WAS GIVEN IN ADVANCE REGARDING THE MAPUTO
DECLARATION, WE STRONGLY BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE RECONSIDERED

IN LIGHT OF THE REMARKABLY MODERATE NATURE OF THE CONFERENCE
WHICH IS NOT JUST OUR ASSESSMENT BUT ONE SHARED BY ALL WESTERN
POWERS HERE.
DE PREE

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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